MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know from the honourable member whether any Veterinary Inspector or any other subordinate of that department who went there did anything to prevent the outbreak of cattle plague?

MR. K. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI: Yes, Sir. The Veterinary Inspector at Nagercoil has been specially deputed for the purpose and he has been supplied with anti-serum. He has carried out some preventive inoculations.

New Industries in the State.

180. *MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether new industries have been started in the State as cottage industries or on a large scale in 1117 and 1118; and

(*b*) if so, the names of such industries and where they are started?

MR. E. I. CHACKO (*Director of Industries*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 1. Starch Industry (through-out the State).
2. Pencil Manufacture (Quilon)
3. Pith, Hat making and cork substitutes (Trivandrum),
4. Malted Vinegar do.
5. Dehydration of fruits and vegetables do.
6. Brush Manufacture (Colachel)
7. Bone meal manure Factory (Kottayam and Nagercoil)
8. Slate making (Quilon)
9. Hand made paper (Trivandrum and Neyyattinkara).

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know from the honourable member whether Government are encouraging any of the industries by giving grants?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: The Government have, under consideration, the sanctioning of grants for manufacture of hand made paper, spinning and other new industries in determining cases.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the honourable member, with reference to No. 7 under part (b) of the answer, whether the bone meal factories at Kottayam and Nagercoil have really commenced working?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Yes, Sir. They have.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: With reference to part (b) of answer, item 9, may I know the total quantity of hand made paper that was manufactured in Neyyattinkara and Trivandrum?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Sir, it was being experimented by the department as to how far hand made paper manufacture could be made a commercial proposition and in the course of the investigation we were able to manufacture about 10 reams of paper. The experiment has proved successful. Some of the samples made were sent to Punalur Paper Mills for being tested. They were found to be quite good.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the manufacture of paper in both places is done by a Government concern?

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MR. E. I. CHACKO: At Neyyattinkara, it is only a private party that is doing the business. He supplies some blotting paper to the Government Stationery Department.

MR P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know the substance that is being utilised for the starch industry?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Tapioca is the most important. Arrow root is also utilised.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: With reference to the answer just now given, may I know whether it is advisable at the present stage to convert tapioca and arrow root which are the essential articles of food into starch and utilise them for hand made paper production?

MR. E. I. CHACKO: Not at all. On account of the acute food situation, Government had to stop converting tapioca into starch.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know, of these 9 items, how many are now in progress?

MR. E. I CHACKO: Item No. 1 starch industry cannot be done now. No. 2 pencil manufacture is being done at Quilon. 3rd item pith-hat making is also done at Trivandrum. In items 4 and 5 the experiments are successful. Some people are considering the possibility of starting a dehydration plant for fish, fruits and vegetables. Item 6 Brush manufacture is done on a large scale in Colachel by Messrs. Aspinwall & Co. No. 7 Bone Meal manufactory is in progress. Item No. 8 Slate making is in full swing in Quilon. As regards hand made paper production, Government have been pleased to sanction the scheme and they are prepared to give every encouragement to the industry.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: With reference to answer to part (b), item 1, may I know whether the Government are aware that dry chips of tapioca are being exported from the State in large quantities even now?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes, Sir, to some extent and that goes to Cochin under separate negotiations with that Government.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether any permit is granted by our Government with regard to the quantity exported?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes, Sir, there is a limited quota It is only to licensed merchants these permits are granted.

Cutting down of fruit trees.

181. *MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the indiscriminate cutting down of fruit trees like the mango and jack trees, has been brought to their notice; and

(*b*) whether they have done anything to prevent the same?

MR. K. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. Government have issued a Press Note dated the 2nd April 1943, advising people not to cut down such trees.

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